

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

MARGERY HITE

Margery Hite was appointed to the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board in 2002 by Governor Gary Locke. She is an attorney licensed to practice in the state of Washington and in the federal court for the District of Western Washington. She earned her undergraduate degree at Princeton University (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) and received her law degree from the University of Washington.

Ms. Hite has spent most of her legal career working for local government. She served as a deputy prosecuting attorney in King County in the criminal and fraud divisions, and as a deputy prosecuting attorney in the Snohomish County Prosecutor's civil division. She has advised and represented local government on a wide variety of issues, including municipal law, employment discrimination, tort liability, design and construction, and acquisition of former railway rights-of-way. She also served as the head of the Snohomish County Prosecutor's litigation unit (civil division).

In 1998, Ms. Hite joined the executive management team in Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel's administration as an executive director. Within the executive management team, she had chief responsibility for human services and law and justice agencies. In her role as executive director, Ms. Hite also headed the Executive's affordable housing initiative to create more housing opportunities for low-and-moderate-income residents. She oversaw the initial planning efforts on the county's new regional justice center, and also led the County's team response to the State's efforts to site an essential public facility in eastern Snohomish County.

In addition to her law degree, Ms. Hite earned a Master's of Comparative Law at the University of Washington, with an emphasis on the law of China and Japan. She clerked with an international law firm in Tokyo, Japan and studied Chinese language in Taiwan. Her professional activities include pro bono legal work for Southeast Asian refugees and asylum seekers from Central America.

Before her appointment to the WWGMHB, Ms. Hite spent a year in Serbia, Yugoslavia, with the American Bar Association's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative, assisting in the efforts of that country to reform its legal institutions.

Ms. Hite lives on a farm in Skagit County.